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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
MUSEUM OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

Lyons, Torrey

Wake Island

1939

T Lyons 1939

June 9 1939

Peal island

Time out - 8:30 to 11:00 AM

Weather - The usual east wind, moderate out of cumilus clouds

Route - Start, quarters out road to Coral gables, East along promontory, working inward to 50 yds + outward to slope of ocean, along beach + tidi flats next to Wake channel back along flats to Quarters.

Comment - birds all seem to be nesting (except rails) eggs or young in down stage. Air at all times full of Sooty terns, noisy, soar quite hi, especially over South end of Wake, great spiral from ground to 2 or 3 hundred yds up South end of Peal is nesting ground for Noddies

List - 1. ~~Fr~~ Frigate birds (8) 2. Booby (2) 3. Noddys
4. Snowy Tern 5. Hawian Tern, 6. Tropic Bird, 7. Flightless Rail
8. Golden P'lover 9. Sooty Tern

T. Lyons 1934

June 26

Wake Island

Weather - typical (Cumulus clouds + east wind)

Time - start 3 PM finish 5:25

Rout - Coral gables, wade channel to Wake along east shore to point half way in crecent, across narrow part of island to Southern most arm of lagoon [stagnet, settling coral silt, both of drift wood in the 2" deep water - low tide) patches of Sinnuum in the coral sand and coral clay or conglomerate - like half hard putty] Back along shore of lagoon to shallows of connecting Wake to Peal. No Sooty terns, noticed on Wake or Tropic birds

Notes - Surprizing that so many Boobies there & we see so few at the airport. Saw Rats - Rail - Hermit Crabs. Sooty Terns most spectacular sight † Fiddler

Species-list - (1) Man o war (2) Red footed booby (3) booby (brown booby) (4) Blue faced booby (5) Moaning bird (6) Sooty Tern (7) Noddy tern (8) Snowy tern (9) Tropic bird (10) rail (11) Golden plover

Torrey Lyons 1939

July 18

Wake Island
Time - 8:30 to 1:00
Route - Coral gable, wade channell thru sooty tern colony to lagoon thora crost, ~~lagoon~~ head South to ocean worked ~~along~~ around beach to end of gravle ~~bar~~ S. W. of Labelle wreckage back along beach to channel & home.
collected 7 glass balls & some black metamorphic rock
Notes - See sp. notes
Sp list -- 1 Blue faced booby
2 Brown booby
3 Red footed booby
4 Curlew sp ?
5 Frigates
6 Habrean tern
7 Noddy
8 Sooty tern
9 Snowy tern
10 Sand piper
11 Flightless rail
12 Golden plover
13 [(Slate colored) plover] wandering tatler
~~14 Tropic~~

Not Seen
14 Moaning bird
15 Petrel
16 Tropic bird

Torrey Lyons 1939

Sept. 12

Wake Island
Weather fair but Cumulo nimbus to the south and west - Tide ebb at start flood at finish
Time 9:45 – 4:00 - Heavy sea from East - East wind
Rout - Cross lagoon in outboard motor with one of maintenance boys, looked over work at the outside dock, then walk all the way around the ocean side of Wake, waded ~~waded~~ peal channel made a line for hotel!
Notes - collected 25 glass balls. Saw two 10 lb (±) akua side by side (one dark + one fair) in 1 ft water over reef near Wilkes - Wake channel, tide ebb.
~~About~~ 4 pig fish, 3-4 lbs, ~~at~~ single, up in shallow water South of Wilkes Wake channel, one king fish light green back, Great nr of eels some in tiny puddle foot or two above low tide. 3/4" diam to 1 3/4" most about 1 1/4" diam. Saw no sharks ~~the~~ tide ~~is~~ when waded ~~to~~ across Wake - Peal Channel Waist deep
Started counting shore birds but they kept flying ahead so persistently only an approximate count could be made.
Between Wilkes - Wake channel & Southern tip of Wake Turnstones - 20
Tattlers - 25
Curlew - 3
between S. tip of wake and Wake - Peal channel
Turnstones - 5
Tattlers - 1
Curlew - 1
Sand piper - 5

Torrey Lyons 1939

Sept. 12

The fact that there were ~~many~~ more shore birds in the first third of the distance was prob due to better feeding conditions caused by the pool type of shore line noted then the open beach plus ~~and~~ gravel beach; however the abundantly populated shore was also the ocean shore!

Birds seen on ~~lake~~

1 blue faced Booby
2 brown booby
3 red footed booby
4 Bristle thighed curlew
5 Frigate bird
6 Aurian tern
8 Noddy
9 Sand Piper
10 Tuttler
11 Turnstone

Golden plover conspicuously absent since so many around airport station now.

November 6

Wilkes - reef ½ Mile N of I. of Dock - Coral Cod eating fiddler crab 1-7" water, trouble swallowing from Barbels sticking out of mouth fish speared, est 4 lb.

Impressions on November 13 - Birds

Boobies - have relatively seen few recently - these the in the ash colored plumage - Sp?

Curlew - one flew by the station about a week ago

Flightless rail - very busy now bringing up young

Frigate bird - Prob same population, 2 weeks ago noticed a great flock wheeling at 500-1000 ft elev. but fewer birds flying over the compound

Golden plover - Abundant an vociferous about Compound

Hawian tern - Think I noticed some about 2-3 weeks ago

Petrels - last time heard abt 2 weeks ago

Noddy - present but scarce - not noisy

Sand piper - not seen since Sept 12

Tattler - think have seen recently

Turnstones - fed on lawn - hour or days not regular

Sooty tern - gone

white tern - here but less conspicuous than in Spring

a new sp - Shore bird, seen twice

Stay Tailed Sandpiper

Nov 10 - Peal, compound - 2 birds noted under Turnstone - Sp questionable, didnt notice bill

Nov. 12 - Peal Compound - one bird. Brown above white beneath only distinctive marking was black strip down ~~to~~ middle of tail believe it was not a turnstone because the bill looked too long and slim - ~~would be~~ projected back it would have protruded at rump - and movements were more relaxed - would more like a golden plover - but no that slow + lackadaisical

Nov 13 - Peal Compound - 2 birds shot today 11:30 AM. both imm ♂. More tame than Turnstone ~~plovers~~ less tame than plovers can usually approach within 25-30 ft sharp cry often take flight. Fly fast faster than turnstone very straight bill very long and pointed in the back

November 17 - Peake - one on compound

Nov 19 - Wake, 10:30, 7 birds feeding in a group in Serrana meadow at southern tip of lagoon.

Lyons 1939

November 19

9 AM to 2 PM - Windy, scattered cumulus clouds - From compound along lagoon to Wake channel, swam channel followed lagoon shore to southernmost point cut west to ocean hit shor 1½ mi N.W. of point 50 yds South of a large coral boulder 100 yds back from water, around ocean shore of Wake back to channel, waded. Observations —

1. 150 Noddies resting on the sand flat between sand spit and Wake channel
2. one Sooty tern flew over, called, while I was on the above mentioned sand flat
3. Rest given under species

Gen impression - Great many Frigate birds + Red footed boobies - Nest in the same area

Species

1 Brown booby
2 Red ft booby
3 ~~Frig~~ Frigate bird
4 Flightless rail
5 Hawian tern
6 Noddy
7 Sooty tern
8 Snowy Tern
9 Sharp tailed sandpiper
10 Wandering tatler
11 Turnston
12 Golden plover

Not seen

1 petrels
2 Blue faced booby ?
3 Curlew
4 Tropic bird (but abundant on peale)
5 Sand piper ?

Note - About ½ dozen rats seen at South end of Wake - lagoon side.

T Lyons 1940

February 7

Overnight stop at Midway
50 minute walk (5:10 to 6:00 P.M.) from hotel to beach by dock along beach to opposite cable station back to hotel thru cable station grounds.
Species seen and approx number.

1 Black footed albatross - fewer than Laysan, nesting margin of beach, eggs
2 Laysan albatross - nesting in colonies, eggs 2% hatched
3 Brown booby - 5
4 Frigate bird - 3
5 Sharp tailed sandpiper - 2
6 Turnstone - 2 flocks of 100 each on beach
7 Sanderling - 2
8 Bristled thighed curlew - 5
9 Golden plover - 10, most feeding on wave washed beach
10 Wandering tatler - one
11 Love tern - 10
12 Hawaiian tern - 12
13 Petrel - at dusk, air filled with them

T Lyons 1940

Feb. 14

2 PM - 5:30 PM strong East wind. to North point of peal, lagoon side, back along reef to channel around outside of Wake to 1/2 mile beyond Lobell wreckage, Airport via lagoon & ~~this~~ saddlebar. Shore birds scarce, total palmate birds many. A new sp of tern, prob grey backed and a black footed albatross

Species

1 Black footed albatross
2 Blue faced booby
3 Brown booby
4 Red footed booby
5 Noddy
6 Hawaiian tern
7 Snowy tern
8 Sooty tern
9 Grey backed tern
10 Turnstone
11 Tattler
12 Golden plover
13 White tailed tropic bird
14 flightless rail (none on Wake)

None

1 Curlew
2 sharp tailed sandpiper
3 sanderling
4 petrel
5 Shearwater

Lyons 1940

April 2

9:30 AM 1:30 PM moderate east wind followed shore of Lagoon to far corner crossed to ocean one mile east of Peacock point back along ocean shore. Accompanied by Bill Rivers & Harry Sweeter. found about 20 glass balls all small

May 23

9:45 AM to 11:AM banded 70 Sooty Terns of Colony ~~along~~ Wake channel, Peale side, No 3 bands, stamped 40, Style 1242, 315,401 - 315,455 Mature birds - caught by knocking down with a piece of rope. 315,456 - 315,471 young birds, couldnt fly.

Aug. 18

10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M crossed channel via sand bar went thru Brown booby colony between Channel and Peak point crossed over to Lagoon side went up as far as first inlet walked back along lagoon, swam channel, took 100 photographs, day clear partly cloudy moderate ESE wind!

Lyon 1940

Black footed Albatross

Wake – many times reported that there were 3 black gooneys on Wake. Boyd (Chamoro) said to have brought one back to station on about Feb 1

Feb 14 – One seen on wing near Labell working definite – 100 feet. 3:30 P.M.

Feb 17 – another seen Dock Wilkes

March 10 – Fungeon reported seeing 4 ??

March 20 – Carcass of the one boys brought back from Wake found top of beach

April 2 – 12:30 Wake, one under Tournefortia 60 yds back from shore 3/4 mi east of Peacock point ploded out from under tree & took off when we were 50 feet away

Aug 23 – No More seen

Grey backed Tern

Feb 14 - Wake 3.00 to 3:30 about 5 noticed along shore of Wake by Labell

Feb 15 - Wilkes A.M. about 10 noticed flying upwind 75 yards off shore - in front of dock

Feb 19 - Wake, 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM, about 400 seen from Heel point south ~~and from to Peacock~~ Peacock point and a mile toward Wilkes. Flying around over the beach except 3/4 mi south west of peacock point a bunch of about ~~150~~ 200 a few sooty terns with them. Differences from sooty tern 1 smaller, 2 grey back, 3 narrow black band from bill thru eye, 4 Wings proportionally longer and more flexible in flight, 5 wing beat slower, 6 cry a single note, weaker, plaintive, mournful.

March 17 Wake - A number seen during fishing expedition in outboard, trolling outside
(April 2 - saw none on Wake)

May 18, saw two by Wilkes outside dock while going out to launch for supply ship - unloading

May 24, saw one off North point of Wilkes 11:30 AM
Aug 23 - Not more seen

T. Lyons 1939 Blue Faced Booby Pg a

June 26 - [illegible] M. - Wake - Many nesting on eastern part of the island, all seen were from half grown in size (still all white down) to stage where they could fly, probably also many of this years ~~birds~~ young flying about. Rest with head down, ~~lower~~ lower than feet, just sort of hangs, very oblivious to surroundings in this state - I walked up & caught an adult this way.
(see notes for Red Footed)

4PM
June 29 - Wilkes - Frigate bird chasing booby just over trees kept right on tail, didn't strike

July - 6 to 12 - many dusky birds seen from outside launch while trolling have a color line across breast at abt same place as adults (darker anteriorly) possibly immature plumage or other plumage phase of sp.

~~Tern~~ fine gravel, eggs were white but very dirty scarred & blood stained, scarf appears to have been made by a thrust with the bill

T Lyons 1939

Blue Faced Booby

July 18 1939 - Wake, East end, A.M. only
2 of sp seen in adult plumage
recognized by black on wing extending
all the way to body & seeming
to be continuous with the black
of the tail also the band of
bear area behind bill & noticably
black. Seen from beach 1/4 mi
East of ~~Anchor~~ wreckage of Labelle

Sept 12 1939 - Wake, 1 PM, 1/4 mile east
of Southern tip of Wake, 3 crippled
adult birds by first Tournefortia 100 yds
from beach, one had wing dislocated
or broken close to base (prob Frigate
bird) other two had no obvious
defects but could not quite take off.
probably other birds feed them as
they did not seem to be starving.
Description - large compared to red
footed booby bill yellow almost
bright chin between bill & feathers
very dark blue-black eye ~~black~~
pure yellow & body & white
except for dark primaries, secondaries
& tail, feet grey. I caught the
bird with the dislocated wing
he was strong and extremely fierce
M. 100 yds N.W. of Labell another a
female under a Tournefortia on 2 eggs,
nest was a slight depression in
~~the~~ fine gravel, eggs were white
but very dirty, scarred & blood
stained, scarf appears to have been
made by a thrust with the bill

Blue Faced Booby

~~1/8 - wide 3/4~~

Sept 12, Wake, 2 PM,
largest seen about 3/32" wide by 1/2" long grooved into soft powdery outer coating of egg down to black hard layer of shell. Eggs appeared to be very old, possibly ~~Feb~~ months, but this could not be determined by shaking them. Reaction of the sitting bird was complaining not defiance when forced off? would make half hearted thrusts repeatedly uttered a hollow whistled note, when I rolled the egg I had examined back with a stick, she? nudged it under her with her bill, bill vibrated rapidly when used for rocking the egg.

Feb 14 Wake P.M. number seen along South side Wake - 1

April 2 - Few seen along southeast side of Wake

Aug. 23 - No birds seen since last date, ~~Four~~ about 4 times, waited at windward side of Peale but none came by, lots of Red footed and brown boobies came by, however.

T. Lyons 1939

Booby (Brown Booby)

Sula Sula (S. leucogastra)

June 9, 9:05, Peal, Coral gables - One flew by 9:50 - one in brush at top of beach 200 yds east of Coral Gables, flounder around took off into wind but once in air ~~flat~~ manner was magnificent glided along windward beach front

June 26 - P.M. Wake - Many nesting along Surface - brick sized coral rocks - few trees east shore of Wake, especially from the channel to the first turn in the shore line (going South). All but one aggressive flew away on my approach. Eggs to young in late down stage. Nests on ground, eggs same shape as chicken & size of small chicken egg. Young seem from a downless pig skin-like helpless thing to almost full sized but not near to flying yet. Adults always had difficulty getting off ground. Flopped along like a Shag would seemed to not fly (glide) a Frigate ~~but~~ Frigate gave up only couple times close enough to strike

Brown Booby

July 18 - A.M. Wake apparently the sp nests & stays on the East edge of Wake. Many young in down stage

Sept 12 - P.M. Wake at South tip of Wake 2 full grown immature birds on one rock 1 on reef one on shore Greyish brown, brownish back. On passing edge of colony on East side of Wake many young in down stage noticed.

Nov 19 Wake — No young in down stage seen - Nesting site deserted except for one bird which could fly. A flock of at least 100 at South tip of Wake, peach way near the ocean Moved farther East when I flushed them, flushed twice more as I progressed along the shore.

Feb 14 Wake PM - many seen around site of last yrs nesting, (~~pairing stage~~) but no signs of this yrs nesting

April 2 Wake - Beginning to nest on old nesting sight North east corner of Wake, nests under construction and eggs, not yet as many birds as last spring, one nest 3 eggs number with 2, as many with one. Nests average about 1½ inches hi at rim. One seemed to out fly (glide) pursuing a frigate ~~out~~ Frigate gave up only couple times close enough to strike

T. Lyons 1940

Brown Booby

April 2 - Frigates seemed to let brown boobies alone

Aug 18 - recently have seen many gliding up windward face of reef toward wake, usually in groups 3 to 9 off & mixed with red footed mostly an hours before sundown till dark, most in dusk, ? how late they fly. Not bothered by frigates. seem to be faster flyers than red footed. On Aug. 18, photographed young on North leg of Wake. some in down except for wings and some in the grey juvenile plumage. Most in or near shade but a few in open coarse coral ~~chunks~~ chunks 1' to 12" wide. Only about 100 young at colony site about 30 adults!

T. Lyons 1939

Pg b

Red Footed Booby

Pg a

June 26 - P.M. - Wake (See notes for Blue Faced) Seen nesting on most of whole eastern part of the island. Nest in (pear-like) trees mostly. Adults would fly away at my approach. young snapped beaks but didn't disgorge sometimes the throat guivered apparently from excitement. Can't yet distinguish from blue faced booby except by red feet.

July 18 - A.M. Wake. East end, Most abundant booby,

Nov 19 Wake - Very many seen all over Wake population distribution parallels frigate birds ~~Young are~~ only one young still in down stage seen. Many ash colord birds. feet black slightly darker band around breast.

Feb 14 Wake PM average number seen 6 seen carrying nest material, strings, weed stems or twigs

T Lyons 1940

Red Footed Booby

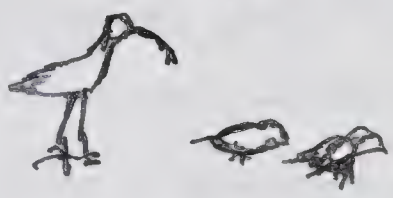
April 2 - Nesting all over Wake, ~~on~~ comet in same tree with Frigates. Mostly eggs but some young in down some quite large a pin feathers on tail & wings. All eggs marred on surface, chalky cast scratched thru

~~April~~ Aug 18 - See notes on flight of Brown booby for this date. Red footed ~~seem to~~ start sooner but fly as late some going by in middle of afternoon Took some pictures on North leg of Wake Aug 18 - most young in down stage or just out of it. no eggs and only one young less than half size of adult by wt. ~~probably 2 thou 2,000 on the~~ many ~~incomatur~~ in juvenile plumage, however, some adept at flying some just learning. Probably there are over 2,000 birds on the north leg of Wake.

T. Lyons 1939

Curlew - Bristled Thighed

July 18 - A.M. ~~Ha~~ Peal, one seen with 4 sand pipers half way between coral gabbs and Wake channel, got up with them & flew out of sight in direction of channel, I had approached to within 20 yds. Brown all over with no definate markings except that tail ~~was~~ had a rusty ~~hue~~ abt same color as eastern Red tailed hawk, tail spread fanlike when bird flushed. Quite large, comparative legs with sand pipers



August 30 - 3:30 P.M. Peale, one on ~~profile~~ ridge along ~~roof~~ ~~along sea~~ Straight ~~flat~~ east from garbage dump. Acted as if there was a nest near. flew around in a half circle when I climed up the incline standing further down the ridge, gave repeated cry.

Sept 12 - Wake P.M. four birds seen 3 just northwest of Southern tip 1/4 mile East of Southern tip, quite wary only field character noted was a slightly light colored rump. Birds uttered a sort of ~~fee~~ whey cry when flushed something like golden plover

Oct 2 - Peal 4 P.M. lone bird calling flew by - leadenly - West to east

T Lyons 1939

Curlew

Nov 1 - Compound, Peal - one flew by - Calling, local flight.

Feb 15 - Peal - one seen by Harry Sweetser

Feb 19 - Wake - 10:00 AM, one half way from Libell to Peacock point, tail very ruddy.

April 2 - ~~xx~~ 1:30 Peal one flushed 200 yds SSE of hotel

April 3 - 2 flushed SSE of Hotel 5:40 PM each called - doubble note, shrill. Harry sweetser has seen them in same place before

April 14 - PM heard calling

April 15 - PM one seen [illegible] heard calling

Aug 15 - flushed a pair of plovers 300 yds south east of hotel

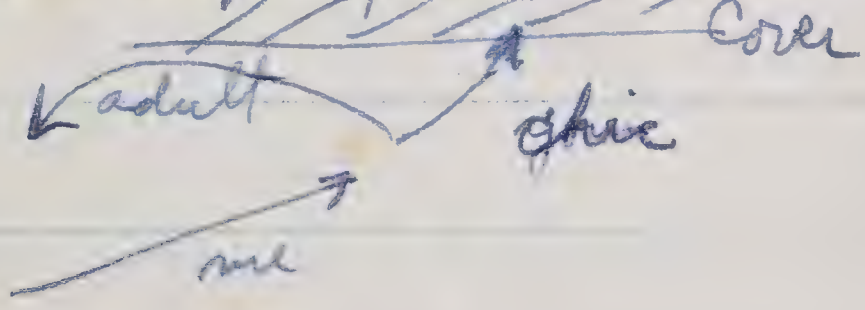
Aug 19 - saw the pair of Curlew each time I went to the Wake - Peale Channel Today they were at the lagoon shore half way between the Channel & the sand spitt about 150 yards apart.

Lyons 1939

Flightless Rail

June 9 1939 8:40 Peal - Flock of 60, by Count at chicken feed storage ~~yard~~ shed. One had light sandy colord primaries, stuck out ~~3/4~~ inch beyond secondaries, fairly conspicuous - Sp has much personality very serious business like little birds

June 13, 1939 4:30 Peal - In clearing by transmitter east of hotel, an adult & a young bird, end of down stage, adult left yung, which moved straigh away from my approach & into cover (brush). The adult circled around, ~~to~~ cackling only slightly, to 30 ft from where left young



June 15 9:00 Peal - a just hatched chick in the chicken yard, wobbled, black down, no adult in sight

one remained - certain 2 birds were on the nest on which the bird remained.

T. Lyons 1939 Pg 6

Flightless Rail

June 26 - Wake - 4: PM - East side of lagoon. One seen under Ericaceous Brush next to beach, sand, quite shy

June 26 - Real - There are about 3, 2/3rds grown young around the quarters + dusty black in color. Do a lot of peeping. There is one wdout a foot is gone and I have never seen him more than 50 ft from the green house one with blue paint on I saw once mi by the recreation hall and 3 times winkles by the green house. There did still leaves a large flock by the green house lichs that feed where the feed was spilled - they look like Hungarian Partrige + act like Chickens.

June 29 - 6:45 P.M. Real - one contested an object, food, which a full grown rat was dragging - each repeated the other Rails most effective ruse was a 5 shaking of the wings rat retreated 2: Rail apparently not very interested, left in one minute

Many egg ± 2 birds on each nest ?, 3 flushed one nest - certain 2 birds were on the nest in which the bird remained.

T. Lyons 1939 Pg C

Flight bus Rail

July 12 - Peal, A.M. 4 young in a groupe near chicken yard
July 15 - Peal A.M. one running v fast flapped wings hard & appeared to be taking most but off wings.
July 18 - Peal are always noticing the rails fighting, crouch & cackle & pur & slice in side ways or jump up like fighting cocks usually one stands & the other beats a honorable & deliberate retreat - Wake A.M. one seen in same spot as on first trip to wake lagoon side ½ mi around from Peal channel. dry crinkles
August 1 - 4 PM - Peal one feeding in leaves under a Tournefortia, used bill very effectively in scratching, with about 3 rapid flicks in a series threw leaves about 12".
Aug 25 - Peal - it seems that ~~more rails than before~~ the number of rails with straw colored primaries is increasing - prob seasonal plumage change.
Sept 16 - Peal 7 AM One digging with bill for grubs in loose coral soil hole big as rails body (2½" deep) one stood patiently by and ~~dug~~ grabbed at food as it was dug up = digging bird ~~is~~ typical plumage waiting bird fresh plumage.
6:10 P.M. discovered two nests side by side under low Cordia Betta grandiora & Hospital Many eggs 2 birds on each nest ♀, 3 flushed one retrieved - certain 2 birds were on the nest on which the bird remained.

T. Lyons 1939 Pg 4

Flightless rail

Sept. 18 Peal 6 PM - 3 nests where there were Two before. 6 eggs 3 eggs 7 eggs. At least 5 birds on them. A few twigs and leaves were over the backs of the birds as they sat on the nests. One bird advanced in defiance, feathers on back + sides up, wings out, head low

Sept 20 Peal 6 PM - Eggs and birds gone

Oct 5 Peal (Day after brush where birds lived cleared away - no nests seen - between Old + New Hydroponicum and Circle) Bird with egg in mouth motions as if it would pick it up but egg on ground. Bird saw me an left. In a few minutes I ~~walked~~ back to see if bird had returned - egg gone, no sight of egg bird or nest ~~near immediate~~ within 20 ft.

Oct. 7 ~~Rails~~ Peal. Rails very excitable for the last few weeks. One half grown done seen near Maintenance quarters

Oct 10 Peal. Half grown seen near hydroponicum

Oct 23 Peal 2 newly hatched rails with 5 adults by North solar heater of Hotel. Jet black down built like baby chick only legs relatively shorter + wider apart

T. Lyons 1939

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Flightless Rail

Oct 23 Pearl — Moved very rapidly - creeping motion. Loud wails. Adults stood around and complained & warned young who scurried away, keeping under cover.

7:45 AM

Oct 26 Pearl - Caught small rail at end of walk front of South wing of Hotel. Rose under some Boerhaavia diffusa (a mat like growth) I layed down with ~~the~~ young bird in my hands & watched the mature Birds. Came within 2 ft, only one made menacing gesture - advanced in crouched position with wings open & elevated back, possibly mother, 6 birds gathered, 4 fled on, chirped constantly. All black down - thin (I think two parted - forgot to note) eye brown feet black legs longer than they appear when bird on ground see. Bill ~~black~~ creper beak black, prominent ridge on front of wing, skin black with pinkish cast - (Bill black noted in connection with young is not pure black but no color shade is perciptable). Adults eye red, legs brownish grey, bill brownish grey, pink cast. In walking made small succession of quick steps then paused, moved in cautious approach for observation between each step - flat weighted foot and other, or flat weighted foot and other foot raised (drawing)

Nov 12 in about a week from the first baby rail 6 had been hatched - 3 new

Nov 12, Peal, Compound, — the hotel and 3 near the greenhouse. I believe more have been hatched since. Saw young ~~ti~~ still in down ~~d~~ un-accompanied by adults.

Nov 19 - Wake - Saw 3 birds, lagoon side of southern end of Wake, very shy. Peal latest baby seen in last day or two is abt 4 days old. Single nurse

Nov 29, Peal, Compound - About as many young as adults - non in down - mostly half weight, stand 2/3 as hi, a dull buff grey. Today watched 2 young hackled their nurse: pelped, butted into her pulld at her feathers (acted like calf when still hungry and no milk flowing) Nurse, unruffled, half started running away, yong at heels, putting & pulling feathers.

Feb 10 Peal babies apparently all grown up, some look young but not under supervision and have adult type plumage

General - Flight, Never fly, noted following
1. Have seen them flap wings to aid in running when very frightened - once when scared by a noise
2. One feeding in Cordia on insects 2 feet off ground, fluttered wings to keep balance & to aid in climbing
3. one jumped off a 4 foot hi box, flapped wings to break fall

Flightless Rail

April 2 - Many seen on walks in meadows along lagoon shore of Lake - especially meadow at tip of lagoon. Many heard call, (5 calls 20 birds seen) One running ~~almost~~ seemed almost to take off.

July 20 - PAA compound discovered rail nest in chicken yard, under Cordia but no ground cover. single nest. ~~chicks~~ nearly all hached at 5:30 PM, 3 eggs left, nurses had babies away as far as 30 ft about 7 were in the nest, about ~~six~~ with nurse - 2 babies dead.

July 21 - PAA compound, at noon - the three extra eggs had been hached only 2 young were in nest rest scattered over chicken yard with about 7 nurses 2 more died.

July 24, - by today no babies left in Chicken yard all out under patch of cordia across the road and south

July 29, Rails seen running toward cordia patch with caterpillars to woos babies stay.

Sept 3 - General notes. No instances observed or reported of a rail catching a dead rat ~~not~~ no evidence of rail eating dead rats ~~f~~ passing program of July 5. ~~AL~~

Never have seen a rail scratch with feet always flip with bill.

Following nest which hatched July 20 saw ~~one~~ young that indicated about 5 other hatches on Peal. On Aug 20

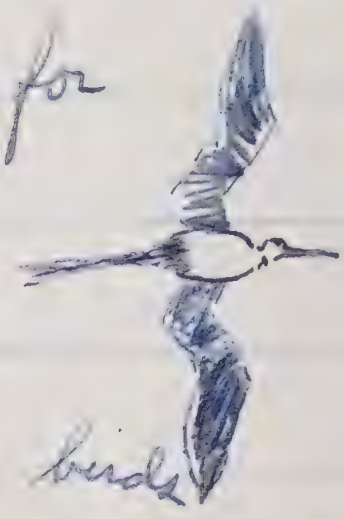
these babies were almost as tall as adults
but still very ~~little~~ few hard feathers, grey.

-yons. 1939

Frigate Bird

June 9, AM, Peal - abt 8 seen during morning soaring around with sooty Terns ~~about~~ from 50 - 100 yds hi

June 22 Peal - color pattern sketch for identification



June 26 - P.M. Wake - Many Frg birds seen - lots of immature birds but only 5 in one tree, could not fly yet. Still a bit downy - rusty on top of head. One disgorged a mass of sardines 2" diam. 5" long. Red footed & blue faced Boobies in same tree (Pearlike). On being harassed & falling one of the young checked his fall by hooking a branch with his ~~outstretched~~ beak - neck outstretched and wings also slanted back triangular support effect, worked with

and brought into the launch" one remained in air all time, pulled out line. Bird prepared by Harry Sweetser

Lyons 1939

Frigat Bird pg 2

ne 26 - P.M. - Wake

Feet after fall checked. About 100 (Flying) adults in one group seen. Did not come down very close when I investigated the young. Not a single one seen chasing a booby or boin bird while I was on Wake. A big variation in plumage phase - all black rusty Mottled brants, white breasts from a little white on breast to white from anal region to and including head & neck.

ne 29 - 4 P.M. Wake - See Blue faced booby

ly 18 - Havn't seen a frigate steal a fish yet - Wake, A.M. east end no of young (25) all but one out of down stage, the one was still helpless parent stayed till I was within 15 ft, all black

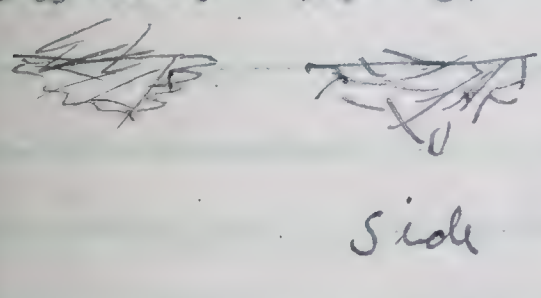
(a mullet) caper, ~~12 in~~ was 12 twelve inches.

2 birds were hooked securely (not purposely) and brought into the launch one remained in air all time, pulled out line. Bird prepared by Harry Sweetser

T Lyons 1939 Pg 2

Frigate Bird

Nov 19, 1939 - Wake, very many birds seen - in air mostly ♀s + immatures many nests ~~on ~~ in scrub (3 ft.) Pemphis acidula at Southern end of lagoon, males on nests 3 with wattles expanded. Birds seem to be perched over most of the island but the largest concentrations were near east shore of lagoon, Northern end of Wake near ocean (by brown booby nesting site.) and at southern end of lagoon (most here) The males give two cries one a resonant mellow whistle in a rapid uniform series (however I believe it drops gradually in pitch & tempo near the end! The other seems to be a warning - not very loud or fierce. Egg is very narrow & pointed white Nest is very brief, flat or top,



Feb 14 Wake PM average number. In tree east of ~~of~~ first Wake meadow 3 with inflated throats, purring heard.

Feb 11 Wake AM - On Sea fishing trip, Gave us a lot of troubbl diving at plugs & Bait, more at red head plug than at a real fish (a mullet) depth, ~~12" to~~ six to twelve inches. 2 birds were hooked securely (not purposely) and brought into the launch one remained in air all time, pulled out line. Bird prepared by Harry Sweetser

Lyons 1952

Bc

Frigate Bird

March 10 - 7:30 AM observation by Bill Powers while Ted & I were on Wake Island at station of 50 ft. continued to about 1 mile out and 3000 ft. Then slowly moved in toward ship - flew down near them. Would circle and fly flapping past ship and, some birds would fly [illegible] quickly with wings [illegible] while others would flap wings - 1 out of 5 or 6 would flap - 1 out of 10 at 75 ft. [illegible]

April 2 - Nesting mostly all over Wake in sheltered places ~~eggs~~ mostly eggs and very young featherless ~~some~~ [illegible] couple with complete hard plumage. 9 smaller with ballons out

Aug 18 - up to this date ~~not~~ nothing out of the ordinary observed. About same number about. In late afternoon and evening a few glide along the windward shore of ~~Wake~~ Peale toward Wake. Don't bother the Boobies then. ~~Th~~ On Aug. 18, saw many frigates on N. leg of Wake most Ad with Black females. Could not get within 50 feet of them if desired, but sometimes they did not wake up. Noticed a few sick ones on some. Quite a few immature birds but almost all Ad. Then would fly. ~~Boobies~~ At least 500 Adults on N leg of Wake

Note: Ted Ramsey, radio operator, tells of Frigates playing along the side of a well developed cumulus clouds, shooting up or down with the air currents.

T. Lyons

Golden Plover

June 9, 1939, A.M. 9:05 / 10:30, Peal, 4 seen ~~along~~ on tide grabble flats of east & south side of island, widely spaced.
10:40 two more on flats. Tide 4

June 22 1939 - Peal Always golden plover around the station feed in evening (six oclock) Smith says he seen them at Six in the A.M. Most birds are brown (general type) and light underneath. Male only seen rarely - always in evening

June 26 - 4:30 P.M. Wake - 10 seen in most ~~southerly~~ South easterly inlet of lagoon. shallow Semi stagnet settling coal ~~silt~~ sand with much drift wood. Doubble noted cry easily recognized by similarity in quality to flycatchers

August - 25. Plovers about the port grounds have become more abundant in the last month.

Dec 2 - Peal Compound - not one heard for at least a week

T Lyons 1939 Pg 6

Golden Plover

Sept 12 - Pearl, during past week the birds have been approx twice as numerous as during any time since my arrival May 27; their calls also very evident birds can be seen at any time of day around airport - Ebly like to feed in the cut bermuda grass. About two weeks ago the tropic Convergence (south) that has been in their vicinity, (causing much rain & overcast days) has moved southward and we are having clear weather

Oct 10 - Pearl first plovers noticed for about 3 weeks - only a pair

Nov 12 - abundant now - Compound - vociferous Call a slurring warble of 2 notes - often given when taking flight or alighting.

Nov 19 - Pearl & Seen almost everywhere even in sheltered locations if no or very low ground cover (on Wahi back from east shor of lagoon) - all around lagoon shore ~~also south~~ dont remember if on ocean shore or not

Nov 29 - Pearl Compound - Population unchanged of late birds getting tamer can walk by within 10-15 feet. Noticed first golden feathers - about four showing plainly on back (yellow more than gold) (a few mixed with the tan feathers equals gold)

Dec 2 - Pearl Compound - not one note heard for at least a week

T. Lyons 1934

Golden Plover

Dec 6 Peal Compound, during past week have heard only on Warble. 4:30 One picking at fresh carcas of dead cat, working in vicera when opened body cavity, rest of cat in tact. Bird showed no particular zest in his feast - the usual undisposed attitude.

Dec 8, Peal, Compound, golden plover came in open door of green house. Caught and put a safty wire ring on right leg. Bird quite thin. Showed little fear, but persistently tried to get away, motive seemed to be to get away from the confinment rather than fear of human - for 2 minutes had it in the glass faced cabinet - pushed on glass and I was standing right in front of it.

Feb 14 Peal - average number around Compound not conspicuous - no sumer male plumage

March 20 Compound - getting belligerent, saw one rout two rails (in the cell traps were turned), two fighting out of drawer one way I would discover at each other. One seen recently with a marbled breast, rest plain. Same population

April 2 Breast of many becoming marbled. Normal number on Wake

April 10 Saw first in breeding plumage, black breast mass & Building

Lyons 1940

Pg d

Golden Plover

Jan 1 4 - Peal, dozen seen, one in perfect breeding plumage, rest marbled or buff
Aug 23 - Peal from above date fewer and fewer birds seen with breeding plumage, none after July, the birds seemed to come in in groups, stay 3 or 4 days or a week and then the majority of them leave. There are always golden plovers around however and some have definate beats where they can always be found. ~~to~~ ~~four~~ stay for over a month. ~~have~~ ~~been~~ ~~seen~~ At dusk flocks ~~total~~ ~~but~~ flying from 10 to 20 birds but there have always seemed to be local flights. The new birds seem to appear consequent to the tail end of a storm. A young bird shot on August 12, ~~other~~ Specimen #92, other immatures around then.

Lyons 1939

Hawaiian Tern

June 9 1939, A/M, Pearl on seaward ~~by~~ Promontory by ~~channle~~ wake island Channel. 2 pairs seen, mating. Distinguished from Noddies by being smaller & different note (see comparison

Hawaiian Tern

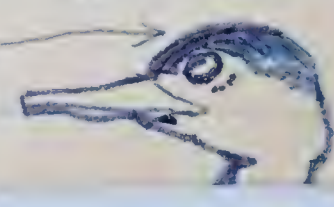
Noddy

) Note sharper grating shackle, note of warning of mating birds) Noddies do not give this. Nest (based on two specimens) much smaller ~~than~~

Noddy Hawaiian T. excrement over sides (same mixt material as Noddy: Tournefortia leaves Twigs & ~~heavy~~ fighting ~~Flossy~~ clusters. Young bird on hatching down stage (all down except head & Juv. plumage under wing) & much different in details white eye ring only a lower rear sector and a spot at one o'clock front of upper half

white. top of head snow white blending eye with the dark grey at occiput

white



T. Lyons 1939

Pg 6.

Hawaian Tern

June 29 - Pearl - two nesting colonies discovered about 6 nests each, one young able to fly, all ~~quite~~ had juvenile plumage, no down, one abt 50 ft North of D.F. reference point #17 other abt 50 ft north of D.F. reference point #23. The cry of alarm is a sharp hi Dt-Dt-Dt.

July 16 - Pearl - some nesting 75 yds N.E. of hotel

Sept 12 - Pearl a half grown bird noticed in a nest 100 yds E.S.E. of hotel, juvenile plumage but the complete color pattern of the adult, made it look like a miget.

Nov 19 Wake Some seen on nesting beach with noddies

Feb 14 - Pearl & Wake - few birds - more than noddies.

Lyons 1940

Pg c

Hawian Tern

April ~~2~~ 3 Som on wake

April 3 Peal Nesting many places back of hotel in rather tall trees with enough room to fly to - one young on down stage, rest eggs to just beginning to build. (Probably nest same not over - if guano covered nest has egg in it). Are slightly darker than the Noddies

June 4 Peal, back of hotel, 20 nests seen feathered young - one could already fly, rounded wing tips due to delayed development of primaries - to newly hatched young - may have been some eggs

Aug 23 - Peal almost all young able to fly now, about half could fly by July 25. Two specimens prepared July 29 #s 89 & 90. None seen on N Leg of wake Aug 18.

T. Lyons 1939

Moaning Bird

10 P.M.
June 20 - Peal - heard crying on East side of Peal

June 22 - 10 P.M. heard crying on East Side of Peal

June 26 - 4:30 P.M. Wake 2 nests investigated 5 hour of near lagoon North end of wake ¼ mi S of Channel. 1st Bird visable in hole 2½ ft long one ft under. Bird taken out one white elliptical egg on the gravel of cave floor. Bird released (didnt show much light - slate gray, lighter beneath) flew away just over trees, a frigate bird started after it. didnt return in 10 minutes. second - 3½ ft hole ft + ½ down, lots of spirit, drew blood. egg same. this bird almost white underneath. wing 17" tail 6" flew away also - (when thrown)

T Lyons 1939 Pg 6

Mourning Bird

June 29 - ~~10 A.M.~~ ~~2 do~~ Peal - 2 dug up - downy soft plumage, like owl, dark on back almost white underneath. feet white but pink from blood vessels (like petrels found on Wake June 26) wing, of both 19½", bit very hard, dried blood, nostrils small, partition wider than, no groove between

When released loped along ground, wings up not much direction. About 1¼ down about 3½ ft back but these the shallowest holes looked in 20 could only see birds in two. Location along the course of D.F. reference points #1 to #20. one egg, white, poorly pointed much more so (apparently) than petrel's.

[apparently = as seen from burrow entrance]

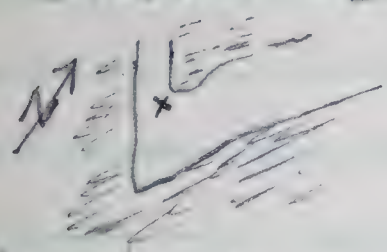
Aug 21 - 6:00 P.M. Peal Port one flying, with rapid wing beats, 50 ft hi, headed East

Aug 23 - 6:50 PM Peal Coral Gables 1 one flying, wing beats rapid, grayish underneath

Feb 14 - Peal - none heard yet (since Feb 9)

Petrels

Nov. 19 - None Heard lately - Wake hole seen at Southern tip of wake



March 24 - haven't heard any yet

April 1 - Reported moving Very few of Penned haven't heard them myself

April 2 - Many burrows in wake - in mat sand at upper edge of meadows along lagoon especially ~~then~~ near tip meadow. (but not at it) very many burrows middle of Wake 3/4 mi East of Peacock point. a pair dug out of a hole in eelgrass meadow 1 ft depth 1½ ft in - one bird almost white underneath died - at dig away ~~when~~ ~~flown~~ thrown all grey and died - both about 11 inch wing 16 inch length - lighter one slightly smaller

April 3 Pair one pulled out of hole 300 yds south of Coast guard base - practically white underneath feathers of back edged with light grey (almost white) flew when thrown rapid beats, unsteady at first

April 14 - Heard first mewing noted this eve From quarters - 10:00 PM - 11:30 PM - very little change in pitch ~~—~~ drops down at end volume increases gradually - drops off with pitch

July 11 - One pulled out of hole in garden back of Hospital, prepared.

Aug 15 - Colony ± 250 yards S.S.E. of Hotel. one pulled out of hole ~~[illegible]~~

Lyons 1940 Wake Pgd

Shearwater

measured 18" - had one young, - dusty white down, 1 3/4" - hi.
Another colony - is between baseball dimond and compound 20-30 burrows.
No ~~odor~~ ~~very~~ ~~no~~ moaning heard for about a month and ~~before~~ what there was, before this, not very noticeable.

Lyons 1939

Pg a

Noddy

June 9, AM Peal - 5 nests seen on way from quarters to Coral Gables, 4 with young bird (3 inches long 2 inches hi covered with sooty white down) and one with egg - egg light buff, brown spots & shadows concentrated on large end almost exact shape of chicken egg, a bit more pointed. Nest a mass of Tournfortia leaves twigs & fruiting clusters in fork of limb of Tournfortia, generally a 3 way fork from 3 feet to 8 feet off of ground - so far about 35 nests observed. 10:00 Not yet observed young being fed but on one nest with young bird ~~abs~~ in middle down stage (3 inches long sitting & standing 3½ inches hi) was a regurgetated fish - skin off head & part third of body gone, sardine shaped fish no signs of the young having touched it 10:30, flock of 38 birds resting on sand flat on southern shore of island at this time between sand spit on Peale-Wade channel - about 100 resting on sand flat at southern edge of Lg

T. Lyons

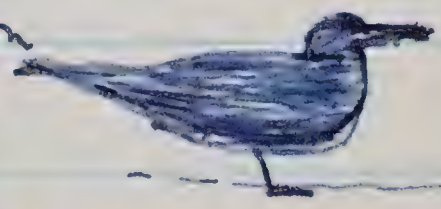
Fig b.

Noddy

June 9 1943, 10:30 AM, Teal, --- no Noddys seen soaring (air full of sooty tern) many birds perched on + by nests in Tournefortias on island 2 birds seen in sight feeding over lagoon - fly along slowly but deliberately 6-10 inches over the surface (into wind of course) + pick objects off of surface, much of time are 5-10 feet off of surface oft seen up, & worked back down wind or apparently reconnoiter.

11:00 flock of 38 still there. Point of bill often put down by tip of toes or base of Tarsus, or even farther back gives the appearance of looking back between their legs motions slow + lackadaisical; purpose? Preen feathers now + then, occasionally pick objects off of sand - resting position

(foot watching lasts 1½-3 seconds)



between sand spit on Teale-Wake channel about 100 resting on sand flat at southern edge of Lagoon

T. Lyons 1939

Noddy

pg c

June 20 1939 - Peal investigated nests in brush South of hotel by lagoon. Very abundant, 5 in one 6' diam bush common seemed to be a time similarity in nests of same bush - within aprox 2½ weeks: one with eggs or v young nestlings one with ~~to~~ nestlings one half or 2/3 de grown etc. Two ~~to~~ young birds threw up when tormented all showed some defiance but some very little - yonger birds more defiance than when nearly full size younger ones oft squak a lot. none left nest. In one nest with small bird in down stage a ¾" diameter squid.

June 26 - Wake - a few noddies nesting there about 1/10 th as abundant per unit area than on Peal mostly in Ericaceous Pemphis acidula brush bordering lagoon

Aug 8 - 6:30 PM Peal, port, two noddies between sand spit on Teale-Wake channel about 100 rising on sand flat at Southern edge of Lagoon

T. Lyons 1939

Pg d

Noddy

Aug 8 - 6:30 PM - Peal

apparently racing, probably part of mating habits. Flying about 3 ft apart one nearly directly ahead of the other, very fast, wing beats about tripple normal rate, start to tap bills at finish of down stroke like pigions a ~~bill~~ cry given a few times. Flight in large arcs, about 200 ft hi, ~~Seemed~~ about one half or one minute then a sudden relaxing of flight with very slow deliberate strokes. after a few minues swift flight was accelerated again to racing speed but the birds then passed out of sight

Aug 25 - Peal - I have seen this racing (described above) about 10 times in the last two weeks, usually at late afternoon or evening.

Sept. 12 - Peal - during past week much of the above racing (Bright weather) often one bird makes a grunting noise with every wing beat. Usually the birds start flying abreast of each other about 5 feet apart. The longest circles around the reader. The radius of the circle depending on the relative rates of speed usually very wide, abt 100 yds.

Nov 14 - Wake & Peal Tho the birds are not much in evidence around the compound now (because they are not nesting) there is a larg population - 150 ^ resting on sand flat between sand spit on Peale-Wake channel & about 100 resting on sand flat at Southern edge of Fox

Noddy

Feb 14 - Peal & Wake - not yet in prominent evidence
few birds seen since Feb 9

March 24 - Lots of birds now two weeks ago some seen with twigs, about first week in March began to move in
Still have heard only about 2 squeaks out of them

April 2 - Peal building nests no eggs seen yet. Not yet very belligerent, seldom doit squawk

April 20, Peal saw a nest on ground. Probably reason not seen last yr is that rails get the egg eventually

June 4 Peal, from ~~[illegible]~~ rear of hotel to Wake channel, few young with feathers ~~[illegible]~~ more eggs than young. one nest on ground

June 24, Peal, one put up ± 80

Aug 23, Peal, nearly all eggs hached. flock of 50 sitting on sand bar south of sandspit, no nests, except one or two in ~~[illegible]~~ pemphis at base of sand spitt where they nested last season. Thickest population is on Between DF site and garbage dump (Northern part of peak)

T. Lyons 1939

Pg a

Sand piper (~~Stop Inlet location~~ Sandusky

Aug 30 - Peal, 2 P.M. two thirds grown ~~down~~ from pier to N point of peal on beach of lagoon, bird ran about 50 ft ahead did not fly, ran along the beach ~~at~~ with sort of a rolling bouncing gate for 200 yds finally Mr Goodeen, Chief mechanic, made a run for the bird then only 20 ft ahead bird flew, flight very similar to turnstone seemed to be in a perfectly straight line at least all on same level, ~~many~~ wings ~~to~~ narrow, curved ~~to~~, a lighter colored ~~tan~~ region down the center of upper surface, light tan (apparently), of course it was not but the bird ~~would~~ gave one the feeling that it was a young turnstone (flight, bout tail, ~~to~~ pale light band down center of wing). Feet very dark, (~~black, red~~ pink cast, but could have been dark red or very dark grey, bill dark (black or dark grey) gen color white underparts, ~~high~~ relatively light above, greyish might be brownish. Head greyish on top ton on sides - the only diferate color pattern. Size second very small

Sept. 12 - Wake, PM, 5 birds seen, 3 in groups just East of S tip of Wake one more 200 yds further East + one half way to E end in point from habell anchor, all on sand or fine gravel upper parts light grey indistinctly mottled + marked underparts white, bill black, feet dark, head greyish (forgot whether crown darker or lighter than edges

Torrey Lyons 1939 Pg 6

Sand Piper

Sanderling

Sept 12 Waks P.M.

(- I think legs with dark around edge
1 a light "check"). On the ground
the most conspicuous marking was
the dark trailing edge of the wing
spread the white sides
the most prominent mark in flight
the light band the length of
the wing, under the trailing edge
also there is a dark line down the
center of the tail, somewhat

Feb 9 Pearl, ~~few seen, no more up to Feb 14~~ ? ? ?

~~Sept~~ Aug. 23 none seen up to this date

T. Lyons 1940.

d Sandpiper ? dove grey

April 1 Pond 9 A.M. One seen at north east corner of chicken yard, allowed approach of 50 feet dove grey uniform upper parts white underneath a tiny white dot at side between neck and breast. shaped like sharp tailed except wings not held as close to body ⟹ at front probably slightly longer. Wagged tail vertically almost constantly. Sweater stage. he saw one this day.

Aug 23 - no more such birds seen

T. Lyons 1939 Wandering Tatler Pg a

~~Golden Plover?~~

July 18 - Wake AM S.S.E. side, middle of crecent of beach, ½ mi East of Labelle wreckage. One bird seen, definatly not G.P. golden plover - half again larger, some seen soon aft for comparison. bill longer, would stick out if projected back thru head → pasture not so erect slate color hue of plumage, dark above light beneath, no markings noticed approaches to within 100 ft bird flushed twice, on tidal coral shelf. Same bird maybe, ? seen in same place as bird noted on June 26 under sand piper.

Aug 5 - 300 - Wilkes - half way from pier to North point one bird flew around me as I walked along the shore ...m.→ ←...D. seemed smaller than the above but couldnt be sure. the color was lighter however. the back was a light slate color

Sept 12, ~~Wake~~ 10:30 - 3:30 20 birds seen from Wilkes - Wake channel to S tip of Wake, one bird seen East of S tip. Birds seem to be where there are rocks, not on sand or gravel, especially abundant around tide pools between Wilkes Channel & S tip of Wake, when flush give a series of 3 - 5 whistled notes somewhat similar to Killy Mt curlew but lower pitch, ~~The~~ the notes the loudness drops as the series is uttered, the last note noticeably weaker. Came on one

Torrey Lyons 1939 Pg 6.

Wandering Tatler

5 Letters

Sept 12, Wake, 10:30 to 3:30 — in tide pool abt 10 ft from him. Legs were a yellow green color. Flocked together indiscriminately with Turnstones

Nov. 19, Wake - not quite as many along west shor of wake - some along shore of lagoon near southern end. Birds quite noisy. The plaintive, tattling whistle was repeated from 3 to 5 times in rapid succession. At 30 feet over legs seemed an orang yellow color

March 24 - Same as ever since Feb 7 except seem a little less slate grey and more brown

April 2 - one light flock of 6 seen on Ocean side of wake 1/4 between peacock & heel point about six others seen very few appear on compound now [Error - Refer to Turnstone]

April 2 - only 3 seen on trip to Wake

Aug. 23 Occasional birds seen (but the impression is that there have been in the last few months — probably false) one prepared June 29. # 81

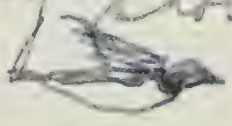
T. Lyons 1434 Turnstone ~~Sand piper~~ Pg a

June 20 - Pearl - a pair seen near coral gables at water edge. Male was strikingly black & white marked on ~~wings and~~ back and back of wings - wide bands down back and out wings. (the birds I saw on evening skimming along on evening while swimming in the lagoon) 2' off water

4 P.M.

June 26 - Wader one seen on S.S.E Shore, smaller than golden plover bill about twice as long slaty on back light beneath (must have been something else [Tattler]

July 10 - West Dock of Lagoon 5:30 P.M. Wilks - A noddy very persistently chasing one just off shore - Underparts white a ~~dark~~ ~~Color around~~ neck & a little of breast dark. probably brown bill apparently short flew with rapid stiff beats



~~Sand Piper~~ Turnstone

July 18 - Wake & Peal A.M. at least 20 seen, all in same plumage, most striking mark, the white band down back, then the dark collar over the white breast next a white band on top of tail, not so noticable is the light narrow band running out top of wing

under parts white,
upper parts quite dark almost black but I think there is some brown.

July 30 - 10. A.M. Peal, port, 3 feeding on grounds. Posture & manner unique most with sort of a deliberate creeping motion make only one swipe with bill (done peck away at things) the position of the body is horizontal the tail very wedge shaped I would guess the food was insects by the ~~manner~~ method of feeding, moved about picking up something here & there. Extrem change of color pattern between ~~flight~~ standing & flight. On the ground no white (or very little) visable on back but white appears in striking band in flight - top of tail nearly all white bounded by a dark centr strip, prob tail coverts

Peal Turnstone
Aug 25 - ~~Fifteen~~ have feed on the grounds about 5 times since July 30. either two or three birds.

Sept. 2 - Airport A.M. 5 feeding on area of freshly cut Bermuda grass

T. Lyons 1939

Pg c

Turnstone

Sept 2, Airport, AM. Quick, definite, jerked movements, head bobbed very definitely & mechanically

Sept 12 Wake, AM-PM, 25 birds from Wilkes-Wake channel to Southern tip of Wake + 5 birds from S tip to Wake Pt. channel. as many as 12 in on flock, mixed with Tattlers each species seemed to regard members of the opposite other species than members of its own species.

Nov 10 Pt. Pt. - fed on bermuda grass lawn regularly. saw first female or immature, 2, no white on upper parts, ~~dress~~ the brown was lighter + more uniform in color (as if some yellow ochre added)

Nov 19 - Wake, not as many birds seen on west shore of Wake (65% about) as many seen on South east shore. Head on view showing flat bottom - dorso-ventral compressed effect much wider than deep

March 15 Compound - couple feeding on dry lawn

April 2 - see Tattler for april 2

June 4 - Pt. Pt. one on sand flat between ~~Hole~~ Sand spit & Wake Channel

Aug 23 within the part, mouth a few

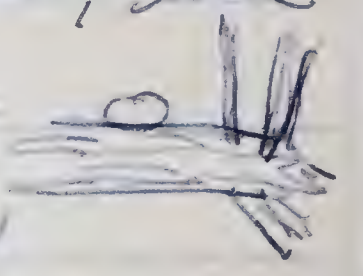
birds have ~~feed~~ on the compound
also on D.F. site and baseball dimond
seem to be more during stormy weather
some seen along shore seem to have
been defenally less this spring than
last - birds on compound much tamer
than on D.F. or baseball dimond.

ons 1939

Snowy Tern

June 9, 8:40, Peal is. Crossroads East end of new Hydroponicum. One bird hovered over me, I paused & looked about for a nest, in about 30 seconds there were ~~two~~ 7 birds hovering around.
8:55 the sp very curious, 4 came & hovered over me as I wrote these notes - in front of Coral Pebble, utter a weak squeak occasionally

June 22, Peal - was pruning tree (Tournefortia) betw Hotel & Airport Mgr's house Terns flew out very excited, a third came, was driven off. Egg on bank 2½" diam



Birds soon quieted and one settled on the egg while I pruned the tree — 8' away.

June 25 - Peal - above egg hached today ± one day

July 18 - Peal & Wake AM many seen on both islands but not as abundant on Wake

Torrey Lyons 1985

Snowy Tern

Pg 4

Sept 12 Wake, 10:30 AM, a pair on Tournefortia at beach top 200 yds South of Wilkes - Wake channel

Nov 19 - Wake - many nests, one 1/3 grown young in tree at Sooty tern Wake nesting site

Feb 12 - Pearl one bar egg on a dead limb 1 3/4" diam 3' long lodged in top foliage of Tournefortia near fire pump

March 24 - Compound all nesting, same as

April 2 - More eggs than young - population much denser on Peale than on wake

Aug 23 Always seems to be nesting population relatively static but seem to have been fewer on Compound here fewer nesting during last month or two. On Aug. 18, population on N leg of Wake apparently same as usual.

Sooty Tern

June 9, A/M, Peal - Air full of terns at all times esp over North end of Wake in great spiral. noon nests seen on South part of Peal

June 26 P/M Wake - Nesting sight visited. Rough Estimate of pairs of nesting birds 5000 (600 ft x 50 ft one per 6 sq ft) could easily be 10,000 ^ Location - along shore of Channel strip betw Tournefortia and top of beach mostly this variant of straw plant - like Succulent herb ^ Westernmost groups, area 100 x 75 feet eggs just hatched a few still unhatched (one in one hundred) one was just hatching young were all helpless. Puffs of grey brown with black dots. ~~Next~~ Adjoining groups ^ young could retreat a few feet to a herb. abt 2½ inches long - ~~all the nest~~ this groups about 75' x 75'. ~~All~~ the rest were out of of the hotel. They were just hatching some seemed to have been hatched by

T Lyons 1939 Pg 6

Sooty Tern

June 26 (cont) P.M. Wake — down stage — just out to full sized bodies — retreated, peeping like baby chicks. looked like young robbins in shape & action, dopey — grey brown with black bar-spots [light feather tips] collected in flocks under trees. I drove one into the water - rode deep but swam confidently. Adults made considerable fuss two times almost touching me, but came back to eggs & young when I had gone on 50'. about one case in 100 there were two eggs or chicks (one instance of 2 eggs, so was not that chick moved. Nests just tiny depressions in sand or dirt eggs similar to Noddies. 3 cases of young disgorging, 2 squid, and one squids and a small fish. Rats abundant at outskirts of colony, had collected lots egg shells - but no evidence that they are a menace to the nesting terns

T. Lyons 1939

Sooty Tern

June 26 - PM - Wake

Hermit crabs must be scavengers under one tree was a mass of them over a bushle in volume. The Nesting site had a not too strong Dried fish smell.

July 19 - AM Wake - Nesting sight developing quite a stench. many young can fly now. the dark brown grey cream tipped juvenile feathers ~~fea~~ on the back give way to uniform color feather abt time the young first flyg underneath at this time breast is light grey belly & abdomen dark sooty grey gives way to solid color(?) underparts birds in this bicolor under side phase certainly suggest swallows. plumage has slate color hue.

Nov 15 + 16 Seal - a number heard calling as they flew up wind ate night

T Lyons 1939 Pg 2

Sooty Tern

Nov 19 - Peal 9:10 AM one flew over while I was on the sand flat between toe of sand spit and Wake Channel
Wake no trace of sooty terns at nesting sight at head of Peal - Wake Channel

Dec. 2 - Peal Compound For about past 3 weeks sooty terns have been calling at night as they fly over, ~~almost~~ can be heard between 7:30 & 11:30, almost always within one minute of listening.

Dec 3 - Peal, at 4:30 there were hundreds of terns above the Wake-Peal Channel at 5:45 there were thousands
Weather: rain squalls.

Feb 14 Peal seen nesting along sea ridge from ~~ethan~~ Wake peal Channel to road to coral gables - none on Wake nesting sites none on last yrs peal site eggs seem to be layed in road were ground smooth (on road at the sea ridge. Great variation in egg marking & color - base color vari from green to brown - spots black, brown gray. seem to be more terns than last year. of at least 500 nests only one had two eggs - none hatched yet.

Feb 17 - Peal AM Harry Swenker went over to the first nesting tern first South of the hotel, they were just hatching some seemed to have been hatched for

T Lyons 1940

Sooty Tern

Feb 17 - Peal - the sun, hi tide washed a lot of eggs away here

March 29 All the nests ~~eggs that are~~ exposed where road comes out on ridge. East side of Peal Island been wiped out, I believe was due to rats eating eggs. One caught in act went hurriedly thru colony swiping at exposed eggs, seems probable was egg but did not drive said way, at this colony one pair only eggs - and abt 350 singles

April 2 Big colonies now at DF-site (East side), South end of Peal, Frobin stage to eggs degregated) and N end of Wake (across Clear Peal Channel) strip from Coral gables to channel, along ridge has been failed except near channel (probably rails - too few for predation to most rails there

April 18 - Compound, Noticed first young tern shaky on pins, quavering voice.

April 21 - Compound Quite a few young flying, just learned

April

May 23 - Peal. Harry sweeten and I banded 70 of colony at Wake Channel (See Date notes - No 3 bands stamped 40 yong style 1242, 315,401 - 315,455 - mature 315,455 - 471

Lyons 1940

Wake

Sooty Tern

June 23 Peal, Terns congregating between sand spit & channel, on sand bar and circling over entire S end of Peale very noisy.

June 25 Peale, Quiet. apparently there was a migration

Aug 2[redacted] Terns starting again — Noisy

Aug 22 Terns in evening in a great spiral over S. end of Peale

Aug 23 Terns — privately gone, did not notice as I departed from Wake at 6:00 A.M.

Tropic Bird

June 9 1939 + 10:45, Pair - One on nest under bush just North of Hotel grounds When not investigated one egg - I showed diffance but ~~not~~ very little spirit bit, but not hard, reared back. Nest just a slight depression

June 20 - Pair. The above night investigated egg there but apparently has been abandon

June - 22 - For the past 2 weeks I have noticed Boson birds flying backwards, lunchtime (11:30 - 12:30) do it in groups, make ~~a~~ lots of noise. Body vertical & fan, then swoop down & often up again, oft three or four in a continuous series

June 25 For past three days much chasing of Boin birds by Frigate birds - I speak never saw one diagoing. One dove at 45° from 100 yds up to young in front of hotel No Frigate in sight

T Lyons 1939 — Tropic Bird (Red Tailed) — pg b

June 29 - 10 A.M. Peal - Abt 4 nests seen North end of island one (young) the black-bars-on-white stage.

Oct 10 - Peal - For the first time in a month or two ~~[illegible]~~ tropic birds were noticed at lunch time flying backwards

Oct 23 - Peal Bird on new nest by ~~[illegible]~~ alongside trees by oil drums back of hotel - not there yesterday. Pinkish (Red) tail feather sent to feathers ~~on~~ ½" long. Mrs. Broder (Hotel Commissary's wife) reports seeing a Boisn bird looking for nesting site last ~~[illegible]~~ November. Would spot a tree from above then come down and fly around it just over ground - squawking loudly - Hard not decided in 15 minutes search.

Nov 15 - Peal - birds - active & conspicuous

T Lyons 1939

Pg c

Tropic bird

Nov 15 Peale
- seem to be starting to nest behind the hotel.

Dec 6 - ~~Tropic~~ Peal nesting begun, pair seen about 4 on the ground but no eggs yet - one at end edge of DF chasing bowling with the tractor 15 ft away did not discourage the bird.

Feb 14 - Peal it is reported to me (Neg Bonnage that a month ago there were many tropic birds ~~nesting~~ under trees around the compound of Hospital. Have only seen 2 nesting since returning on Feb 7. both had lost tail feathers. (probably in vacinity of compound pulling feathers made them leave - chamorro boys.

March 24 very quiet about nesting young many back of hotel, one still in down stage, rest fledged, ~~lay~~ rest on side rather than 'straight' up

April 2 - 2 seen nesting on Wake.
April 3 - Peal, many young at large at pasture some eggs yet - one seem to have a large young and an egg ~~in~~ yet back of hotel. ~~Robins - Tat~~

June 4 - Peal 12 nests seen - no eggs ~~nearly~~ nearly down stage to full sized - Rear of Hotel to Wake Channel

Aug 23 - Peal, tropic bird - Scarce now probably only one or two young on Peale

which are not yet able to fly. No new nests
Still see birds at noon but not
many & not very active.

T. Lyons 1939 Wake Islands

#

74 bill yellowish, feet dark greyish olive
Coo Coo ad ♂, total l 398 body l 95 ± 3 1
Seen in front of hotel quite shy,
flushed once aft first seen, typical
coo coo actions, perched in foliage
of tournefortia (called it a coo coo
before I shot it ~~when~~ Tho I shot
surely it could not be) obtained (gage Mr Connly's 12
shot gun aft 15 minutes. Hunted for 1/2
2 hours, finally saw the bird
working around in bushy growth of
tournefortia just east of Chicken yd.
50 ft. approached, too close, & shot
it, 7½, chilled shot. Prepared in evening.
The morning weather was over cast the
preceding day was the first completely
cloudy day we have had this
rainy season, storms in vacinity
will make further check on weather
condition for preceding days in Central
Pacific. First real stormy weather-
(Convergence Trouth to West Wouth - 11/28/39)

Striking ~~fat~~ was amt of fat on bird,
fattest bird I have ever skinned
volume of piece actualy detached = to
head (outside dimentions)

11/28/39 - Yesterday about 3 pm found bird for Mrs. Cannon (passenger) west end of Aviation at Shaughai, at least 2 yrs in China collection of birds - Called #74 a "One more bottle" - migrates. #75

T. Lyons 1939 — Wake Islands

75 Frigate bird, ad ♂ Airport Peal is.
Aug 3 1939 - Shot by Mr Connley

76 Frigate bird ad ♂ Airport Peal is
Aug 4 1939 - Shot by Mr. Cruely
Wing spread 6′ 2 3/4″

77 Flightless rail im ♀ on road to dump, 1/2 way from airport - Run over by truck - wing bones ~~resistant to fracture~~ only about 1/4 th as resistant to fracture as leg bones - Oct. 25, 1939

78 Sharp tailed sandpiper im (♂?)
shot with 16g shot gun 7½ ch shot (too close) on road, between Hotel & tennis court Peale is. Skin dried too much before stuffed Nov. 13, 1939

79 Sharp tailed sand piper im. ♂
Shot with same shell as above birds one foot apart. These two birds had been seen ~~the~~ two preceding days, each time within 75 yds of The airport more than a dozen times. Less tame than Golden plovers more tame than Turnstones (See Sharp tailed sandpiper for Nov 10 - 12 & 13 1939 Nov 13 1939

Lyons 1939-40

Wake Islands

#78 & 79 Short tailed Shearwater Puffinus tenuirostris Nov 13 eyes brown, legs yellowish flesh green bill almost black at tip lighter toward base, grey-brown.

Harry Sweetser #? Frigate bird im ♀ Feb 11 caught at sea on red head plug. Wake Is

#80 Noddy, Anous stolidus, apparently adult but skull not thickened, cut fairly easy with scissors, ♂, testes somewhat enlarged, one 7 m m (longest width one 5 m m, ± this one dark in color June 23 1940 bill black, feet much lighter slightly flesh color. Shot with 22 long, in flight near northern end of Peale Is.

#81 Wandering Tatler Heteroscelus incanus. mature ♀ June 29 1940; Bill dark grey brown, feet yellow, faintly olive. Shot with 22 dust shot along North shore of Peal Is. Another bird was with this one.

#82 Sooty Tern Sterna fuscata oahuensis mature ♂ July 4 1940 bill & feet black Knocked down with a rope at nesting

T. Lyons 1940 Wake Islands

#82 Cont' colony at South end of Peal Island yong birds could almost all fly

#83 Shearwater Sp? "moaning bird" ¿mature? female, length 17½ inches, taken out of hole in garden back of Hospital PAA Compound, Peal island. Bill grey dark sooty tip, feet milk white pinkish. Burrow was 3½ feet long and one foot deep, in coral sand with some humus few coral chunks. July 11, 1940
The only bird in the burrow. Might be immature as burget ova was only about one mm in diameter and skull was ~~only~~ unthickend over lobes of cerebellum.

#84 Red footed booby, mature ♂ testes small, shot in head with 22 long as it ~~it~~ glided along the face of the sea wall on the weather side of Peale Is, opposite PAA compound 5:30 PM July 12, 1940

#85 } preserved in formalin, 5%. Two
#86 } baybay rails, from nest in Chicken yard, about 15 hached from it. 4 died - there are 2. less than one day old. PAA Compound Peale Is. July 21, 1940
#87 {Other two} ♂
#88 {baby rails} ♀? ants chewed feet } July 21 1940

T. Lyons 1940 Wake Islands

#89 Hawaiian tern imm ♂, length-13 5/8" shot at group resting site, about 5 mete, with 22 shot 100 yards N.E. of PAA Hotel Peale Is July 29, 1940

#90 Hawaiian tern, mat ♀, length 13 7/8" shot near nest with 22 shot, at back of sand spit in first Tournyortia. 2 meters in shell room. Peal island July 29 1940

#91 Love tern, mature ♂, shot with 22 shot 75 yards N.E. of PAA Hotel, into shewed feet, Peale Is, July August 12, 1940

#92 Pacific Golden Plover, imm ♂, shot with 22 shot, baseball dimond (PAA) Peal Is August 12 1940

#93 Bristled thighed curlew mat ♂, shot with 16 ga shot gun 7½ shot, Lagoon shore half way between sand spitt and Walke - Peal channle Peal Is. Aug 19 1940 put up Aug. 21, 1940